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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/029,927	12/31/2001	John Patrick Ardelan JR.	A00643	5903
26381	7590	10/05/2005	EXAMINER	
LACASSE & ASSOCIATES, LLC 1725 DUKE STREET SUITE 650 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			LA, ANH V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2636	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/029,927

Applicant(s)

ARDELAN ET AL.

Examiner

Anh V. La

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/31/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 6 recites the limitation "said system" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 11, 13, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rogers.

Regarding claim 1, Rogers discloses an integrated radio tower light controller and alarm reporting device comprising a current sensing module monitoring AC current distributed to one or more beacons and one or more lights 1, 2, the module reporting one or more alarm modes associated with the beacons and light via one or more alarm units, a flasher module 9 flashing the beacons at a predetermined flash rate and reporting one or more of the alarm modes if any beacons fail to flash at the predetermined rate, a first mechanical relay and a second mechanical relay (abstract, column 1, lines 25-50, col. 2, lines 45-30, col. 5, lines 1-38, col. 6, lines 35-45).

Regarding claim 2, Rogers discloses diodes (see figure 1).

Regarding claim 4, Rogers discloses solid-state modules (fig. 1).

Regarding claim 5, Rogers discloses the device being compatible with existing tower light controllers and made functional via replacing electromechanical current sensing module or electromechanical flasher module.

Regarding claim 7, Rogers discloses an integrated radio tower light controller and alarm reporting device comprising one or more alarm units, a solid-state flasher module 9, a solid state current sensing device, and at least three solid state current sensing device for monitoring AC current in A beacon, B beacon, and sidelights and upon sensing failure in the monitored AC current, activating the alarm units (abstract, col. 1, lines 25-50, col. 2, lines 45-30, col. 5, lines 1-38, col. 6, lines 35-45).

Regarding claim 8, Rogers discloses one or more alarm units monitoring one or ore of A beacon, B beacon, flasher, sidelights or AC power (abstract, col. 1, lines 25-50, col. 2, lines 45-30, col. 5, lines 1-38, col. 6, lines 35-45).

Regarding claim 9, Rogers discloses the device being compatible with existing tower light controllers and made functional via replacing electromechanical current sensing module or electromechanical flasher module.

Regarding claim 11, Rogers discloses diodes (see figure 1).

Regarding claim 13, Rogers discloses a method for replacing a pre-existing radio tower light controller with an integrated tower light controller and alarm reporting device comprising replacing electromechanical flasher module with a solid state flasher module 9, replacing a current sensing modules with a solid-state current sensing device, and

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installing at least three solid-state current sensing device for monitoring AC current in A beacon, B beacon and sidelights, and upon sensing failure in the current activating the alarm units (abstract, column 1, lines 25-50, col. 2, lines 45-30, col. 5, lines 1-38, col. 6, lines 35-45).

Regarding claim 14, Rogers discloses diodes (see figure 1).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 3, 12, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogers in view of Unnewehr.

Regarding claims 3, 12, and 15, Rogers discloses all the claimed subject matter as set forth above in the rejection of claim 2, but still does not disclose peak inverse voltage diodes. Unnewehr teaches the use of peak inverse voltage diodes (col. 5, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include peak inverse voltage diodes to the device of Rogers as taught by Unnewehr for the purpose of effectively indicating an alarm signal.

6. Claims 6, 10, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogers in view of Schirmer.

Regarding claims 6, 10, and 16, Rogers discloses all the claimed subject matter as set forth above in the rejection of claim 1, but still does not disclose a metal backplate. Schirmer teaches the use of a metal backplate 1. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include a metal backplate to the device of Rogers as taught by Schirmer for the purpose of effectively mounting electrical devices.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Knutson, Young, and Guthrie teach signal tower controllers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh V. La whose telephone number is (571) 272-2970. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 9:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffery Hofsass can be reached on (571) 272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**ANH V. LA**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Anh V La  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2636

AI  
September 29, 2005